IC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 0 JUN 2005

International Application No.			:	PCT/EP2003/013205				
International Filing Date			:	November 25, 2003				
Priori	ty Date((s) Claimed	:	December 13, 2002				
Appli	cant(s)	(DO/EO/US)	:	Michael Howard RAYNER-BRANDES				
Title:	METI	HOD AND DEVICE	FOR DR	YING OF MICRO-ORGANISMS				
INFC	RMAT	TION DISCLOSURI	E STATI	EMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98				
P.O. I	3ox 145	or for Patents 0 VA 22313-1450						
Sir:								
and 1.	This in .98 as fo		statemer	nt is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97				
Timin	g and F	<u>ees</u>						
\boxtimes		37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) sure statement is filed		or statement is required for filing this information				
		within three months under § 1.53(d);	of the fil	ling date of a national application other than a CPA				
		within three month application; OR	s of the	actual filing date of the national phase of a PCT				
		before the mailing o	of a first s	ubstantive office action (including after filing of an				
		Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this information disclosure statement is filed after the periods specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of:						
		-	ecution, e	F.R. 1.113; e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2); OR				

		is acco	ompanied by:
			the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) set out below; OR
			a check covering the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
			R. § 1.97(d), this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing lowing actions which have not been withdrawn:
		a final	action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
		termin	ation of prosecution, e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2);
		OR a ı	notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311;
	AND	is filed	on or before payment of the issue fee; AND is accompanied by:
			tement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) as set forth below, and the fee of 00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
Staten	nents U	nder 37	C.F.R. 1.97(e)
			Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application having a mailing date not more than three months prior to the filing date of this information disclosure statement; or
			No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the information disclosure statement.
Cited	<u>Materia</u>	<u>ls</u>	
		ancest	or application Serial No, on Form 892 by the Examiner and/or Form by the applicant; see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
	\boxtimes	-	s of materials listed but not attached were cited in an international search dated March 15, 2004.
		Not re	quired by 37 CFR § 1.98.
		Copie	s of the materials listed are attached (except for the foregoing).

Non-Engli	sh Language References
\boxtimes	An English-language search report or equivalent paper from a foreign patent office is provided indicating the relevance of the cited reference(s).
	A foreign-language search report from a foreign patent office is provided, and pertinent parts are translated substantively below:
	 X = document of particular relevance when it is taken alone Y = document of particular relevance when it is combined with another such document A = document defining the general state of the art O = non-written disclosure P = intercalated document T = document cited to understand the theory or principle underlying the invention E = patent document which has the benefit of a date earlier than the filing date and which was published only on or after this filing date D = cited in the application L = cited for another reason & = publication of member of same patent family
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Other Info	<u>rmation</u>
	f Fees Due (If Any): check for \$ covering the fee identified above is attached.
☐ Ple	ase charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3402 \$ for the fee identified above.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account #13-3402, two copies of this paper are attached for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969

Attorney for Applicants

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Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-3006

Date: June 10, 2005

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO	Application Number	1 lasser 9 38 2 9 2
	Filing Date	June 10, 2005
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Michael Howard RAYNER- BRNADES et al.
OTATEMENT DIVIN	Group Art Unit	Unassigned
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-3006

_			U.S. P.	ATENT DOCUMENTS	
xaminer	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Documer	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
Initials *	Cite No.	4886664		Jung Gerard et al	December 12, 1989
	2	4888171		Okonogi Shigeo et al.	December 19, 1989
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Examiner		Foreign Patent Document Kind Code ⁵		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶	
Initials*	Cite No.¹	Office ³	Number ⁴ 0105941	(if known)		January 25, 2001		
	4	wo	0137656		Universal Preservation Technol	May 31, 2001		
	5	EP	0298605		Unilever Plc: Unilever NV (NL)	January 11, 1989		
	 							

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Michael Howard RAYNER- BRANDES et al.		
,	Group Art Unit	Unassigned		
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Sheet 2 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-3006		

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xaminer nitials *	Cite No.1	ligumal serial symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue memos (s), page (s), (s), pag	1.
	6	POPOVIC TANJA ET AL: "Evaluation of silica gel packages for transport Neisseria meningitides: "JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY vol. 36, no. 6, June 1998, pages 1765-1766, XP002271251	
	1 '	MUGNIER J ET AL: "Survival of Bacteria and Fungi in Relation to Water Activity and the Solvent Properties of Water in Biopolymer Gels" APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY, WASHINGTON, DC, US, vol. 50, no. July 1, 1985, pages 108-114, XP000978796	
	8	LOUIS P ET AL: "Survival of Escherichia Coli During Drying and Storage in the Presence of Compatible Solutes" APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY, SPRINGER VERLAG, BERLIN, DE, vol. 41, no. 6, August 1, 1994, pages 684-688, XP002059594	
	9	B. Janning et al: "Resistance of bacterial strains to dry conditions: use of anhydrous silica gel in a desiccation model system" Journal of Applied Bacteriology, 77 (1994), 319-324	
	10	J. Antheunisse et al.: "Survival of microorganisms after drying and storage", Antonie van Leeuwenhoek 47 (1981), 539-545	
	 		
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